

Message Text

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43

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111164

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, CH, US

SUBJECT: RECONCILIATION OF CHINESE TRADE DATA

REFERENCE: HONG KONG 5682, PEKING 0203

1. FIGURES ON US- CHINA TRADE GIVEN AMBASSADOR BRUCE BY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER PAI APPEAR RECONCILABLE WITH OUR INFORMATION. US IMPORTS MATCH CHINESE EXPORTS, ALLOWING FOR HONG KONG RE- EXPORTS OF CHINESE GOODS WHICH INCLUDED IN US BUT NOT IN CHINESE DATA. KNOWN CHINESE IMPORT CONTRACTS AT APPROXIMATE C. I. F. VALUE INCLUDE: \$515 MILLION FARM PRODUCTS (,.5 MILLION TONS GRAIN, 800,000

BALES COTTON, \$54 MILLION OILS AND SOYBEANS), \$150 MILLION BOEING CONTRACT, \$75 MILLION KELLOGG CONTRACT (THREE AMMONIA PLANTS), \$30 MILLION MINOR KNOWN CONTRACTS.

2. THE ADDITION OF UNCONFIRMED TWO MILLION TON GRAIN SALE VALUED AT OVER \$170 MILLION WOULD BRING IMPORT CONTRACTS TO PAI'S TOTAL OF \$940 MILLION. AMOVE LISTING CONFORMS
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WITH PAI'S DISTINCTION BETWEEN " DIRECT" AND " INDIRECT"
PURCHASES. MOST FARM PRODUCTS PURCHASED " INDIRECTLY"
THROUGH INTERNATIONAL GRAIN COMPANIES, WHILE ALL OTHER
CONTRACTS NEGOTIATED " DIRECTLY" WITH US FIRMS.

3. FOR PEKING: USLO OFFICERS MAY WISH TO DRAW ON THE
ABOVE INFORMATION TO INITIATE DIALOG WITH PRC TRADE
OFFICIALS RE US- PRC TRADE STATISTICS. DEPARTMENT WOULD
BE INTERESTED IN ANY PRC CONFIRMATION THAT OUR FIGURES ON
COMPOSITION OF TRADE ARE BASICALLY CORRECT AND OF COURSE
RETAINS INTEREST IN OBTAINING FUTURE STATISTICAL
INFORMATION FROM PRC. RUSH

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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